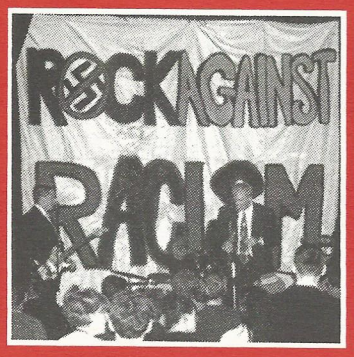
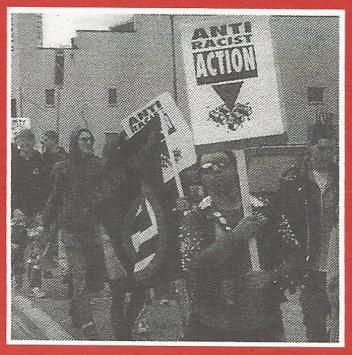
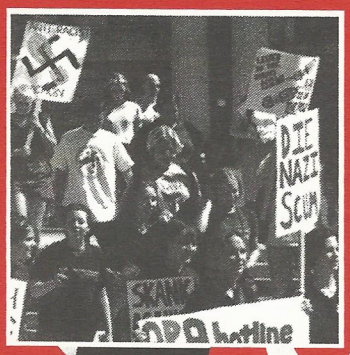






anti-racist action (ARA)

introducing the ARA-Network

Fall 1998

what is Anti-Racist Action?

Hundreds or even thousands of people across North America today are involved in ANTI-RACIST ACTION, a movement of struggle against racism and fascism.

We are organized in local groups, sometimes called chapters. Each chapter is different. There is no president, no leader, and no head office.

This booklet introduces you to our anti-racist and anti-fascist work. Each chapter had the opportunity to contribute a statement. Together these statements describe what we do, what anti-fascism means to us, and also the history of ARA in different areas of Canada and the USA. There have been ARA groups in North America since the 1980s.

In 1994, the ARA group in Columbus, Ohio, held a conference to form the Midwest Anti-Fascist Network. Three ARA groups were represented there, as well as a number of left groups, community activists, and young people interested in fighting for a better world. A year later, we agreed to change the name to the ARA-Network, or ARA-Net.

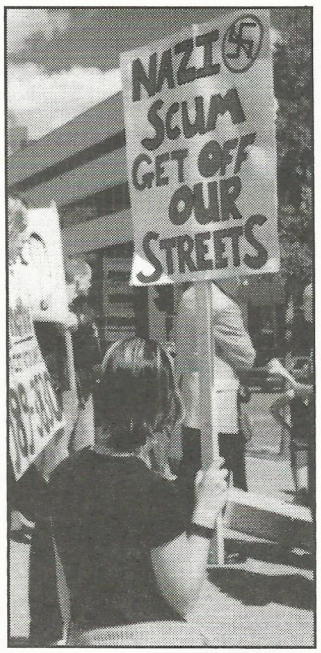
Since then, the Network has spread like wildfire! By 1998 there were more than 120 ARA groups.

We communicate with each other through newsletters, the Internet, and at annual conferences and smaller regional gatherings. We see each other at demonstrations against the Klan, neo-Nazis, and the Christian Right; we help each other organize against police brutality and in support of political prisoners. We learn from each other and grow politically.

ARA is especially popular among young people, but people of all ages and backgrounds are part of ARA. What keeps us together is our desire to confront oppression and to get things done!

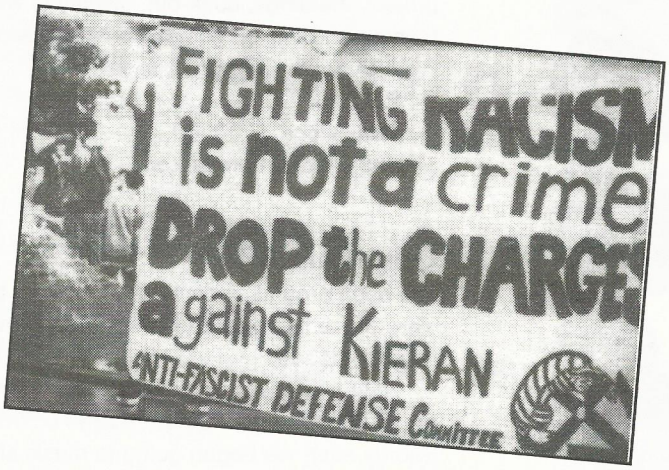
the Four Points of Unity of the ARA-Net

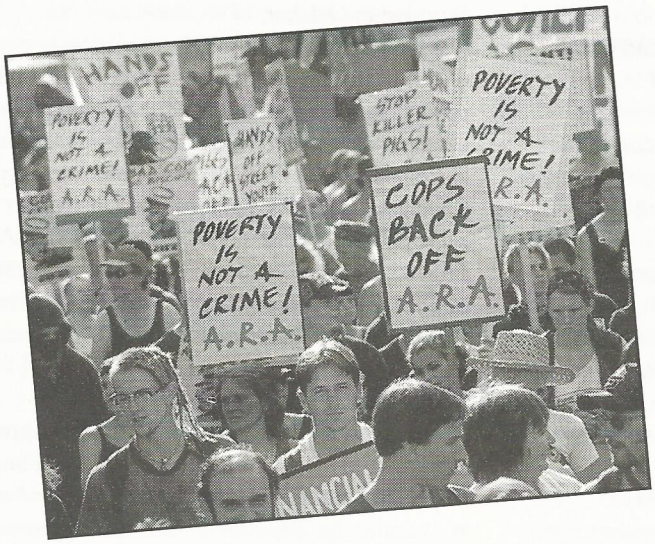
1. We go where they go. Whenever fascists are organizing or active in public, we're there. We don't believe in ignoring them or staying away from them. Never let the nazis have the streets.



2. Don't rely on the cops or the courts to do our work. This doesn't mean we don't ever go to court. But we must rely on ourselves to protect ourselves and to stop the fascists.

3. Non-sectarian defense of other anti-fascists. In ARA-Net, we have lots of groups and individuals. We don't agree about everything, and we have a right to differ openly. But in this movement an attack on one is an attack on us all. We stand behind each other.





4. ARA-Net intends to do the hard work necessary to build a broad, strong movement against racism, sexism, anti-Semitism, homophobia, discrimination against the disabled, the oldest and the youngest of our people. We intend to win!

ANTI-FASCIST

Midwest USA

South Chicago ARA

started in May 1998. We have gone on a nazi grafitti clean-up and participated in a few rallies and demonstrations. We are starting to become acquainted with other activists in nearby ARA chapters, such as Lansing IL ARA, Chicago ARA and Northside ARA. On September 26th we had a dynamite benefit show at Off The Alley, in Homewood, IL. Five bands jammed up a storm. We had our banners plastered all over the place and a well-stocked literature table. The UHURU group fighting to free Fred Hampton Jr. from the TAMMS maximum security behavior modification torture center, also tabled at our event.

We have also produced an ass-kicking zine. South Chicago ARA Alert. It's sixty pages of digest-sized dynamite! We are into it, mostly high school punks in bands. We're busy spreading the ARA message throughout the high schools in the area. We have a cool, loose group.

On October 24th at the Blue Island Greens River Clean-up site, we are co-sponsoring a full day of activities–a sort of ecologically oriented, racial friendship fair. (Of course, there are no "races" of people, just one species of humanity.) It'll be a combination clean-up project, meetings, cook-out, display of wares, sensitivity training and maybe some acoustic music.

ARA South Chicago
P.O. Box 721
Homewood, IL 60430
ara_s_side@hotmail.com

Columbus ARA

has been around since 1989 when nazi boneheads were present around the Ohio State campus neighborhoods.

ARA News was first published in 1994 with a print run of 800, and our last issue ran 75,000 copies. Shortly after, we began going to music shows and tabling with *ARA News* and building our mailing list which is now over 20,000 strong and growing everyday! Our presence at Mighty Mighty Bosstones and other shows around the U.S. and Canada has led to our chapter being the de facto national office. This has allowed us to help network & be an information resource for new and current chapters.

Since 1995, we have organized Anti-Fest; our annual, all day, outdoor music festival.

Copwatch became a project of ARA Columbus when a police riot erupted on the infamous E. 12th Ave in 1996. Since then we have been regularly patrolling our communities with video cameras. We have suffered some arrests – some violent, others not – but have won every case so far. We continue to have the support of the community.

We would like to see our chapter & the ARA Network develop stronger communication networks with other anti-fascist groups. We would like to see a more intense focus on feminist issues; such as reproductive freedom and support for families within ARA. We have worked on some Native American issues but we would like to make that a stronger focus as well. We plan to continue the hard work necessary to build a strong, broad-based anti-fascist movement in North America.

ARA Columbus
P.O. Box 82097
Columbus, OH 43202
(614) 424-9074 ara@coil.com
http://www.coil.com/~ara

Detroit ARA

is a class conscious, multi-racial direct action group dedicated to fighting white supremacy, fascism, sexism, homophobia, cutbacks and gentrification!

We are organized on a directly democratic basis. We encourage everyone to be a leader and no one a "follower". Our group has three crews that focus on specific projects:

The "Whose Detroit?" crew challenges the racist and elitist redevelopment of the city. We've organized a protest against a new youth jail being built downtown and a campaign demanding jobs and apprenticeships for city residents.

Our "Anti-Fa" crew monitors fascists and organizes to confront and disrupt their activities. We also send contigents to join anti-Klan rallies across the Midwest.

The fighting sexism, homophobia and the religious right crew is set up to challenge the above mentioned manifestations on a local level (i.e. Detroit Right to Life) and on a national scale (Promise Keepers).

We have put out a paper, *The Detroit Drum*, and hope to do so more regularly. We are also starting our own office to coordinate our crews as well as to create a base for outside organizing.

ARA Detroit
P.O. Box 321211
Detroit, MI 48232
(313) 730-3555

Kent ARA

Founded in October 1996, ARA-Kent remains committed to action in the fight against oppression in our community, and showing solidarity in the struggles of other communities wherever and whenever possible. Just a brief example of what we've done: KKK counter-demonstrations in Columbus and Pittsburgh; demonstrated against Portage County Right To Life; demonstrated in support of abortion clinic patients in Cleveland; started the Kent Abdul Haqq Justice Defense Committee (Haqq was a political prisoner and set free in April!); protested at Jacob's Field in Cleveland with A.I.M. and the 500 Years Committee against the racist mascot and team name of the Cleveland "Indians."

ARA-Kent realizes the fight against oppression requires the struggle against colonialism and imperialism. We organized local solidarity work for: the Dineh in Arizona; the Zapatistas in Chiapas; the people of Nigeria who have stood up against the corporate destruction of the land and the military dictatorship; the

Iraqi civilians, unjustly attacked with genocidal tactics by the U.S.; the East Timorese suffering under brutal colonial rule by Indonesia; and more.

We have adopted our own points of unity, holding true to the original four points, but expanding them. They state that we believe in direct action, and that we fight racism on all fronts – both in the organized fascist movement and institutional racism. Our points also state that "We [...] acknowledge that racism and imperialism go hand in hand." We have also adopted a point that says that we struggle against internal hierarchies and for equal participation. Finally, we have stated that: "[We intend] to do the hard work necessary to build a broad, strong movement against racism, sexism, anti-Semitism, homophobia, heterosexism, classism, discrimination against the disabled, the oldest and the youngest members of our society. We are active in defending reproductive rights and freedom of religion."

Student Anti-Racist Action – Kent State University:

Just months after ARA-Kent formed, Kent State students in ARA formed a student-based chapter, Student Anti-Racist Action. S.A.R.A. takes a more educational approach, focusing on raising the consciousness of Kent State students and inspiring action. We share the same points of unity with ARA-Kent, and most actions are combined actions. In addition to the work that we do with ARA-Kent, we also bring speakers to the KSU campus. We have brought Michael Novick, Floyd Cochran, Abdul Qahhar, Rober Wareham, and others to speak to large audiences, and put on a very successful program for the October 22 National Day of Protest Against Police Brutality.

Student Anti Racist Action Kent State
C/o Kent State University
Office of Campus Life Box 8
Kent OH 44242

Kirksville, MO ARA

formed in the fall of 1997. We were recently chartered as a campus organization at Truman State University, but we have not limited ourselves to the campus activities, and our membership comes from the campus and surrounding community.

So far we have targeted several area businesses that have openly racist and homophobic management. We are campaigning to boycott a bookstore and are working on finding other ways to approach different businesses. In the future, we will work on recognizing the local hate groups that are prevalent in North-Eastern Missouri, and strive to counter their influence in the community.

ARA Kirksville
CAOC office -sub Truman State University
Kirksville MO 63501

Louisville ARA

has been around since March of 1996. We organized in response to a Klan rally here in Louisville. We were the first group in Louisville to get the word out about the Klan rally because of some fortuitous access to intelligence. After that we infiltrated the racist American Renaissance conference and "outed" the AR organizer/publisher in his neighborhood. We have participated in a number of anti-Nazi and anti-Klan actions outside of Louisville as well as many other events, including anti-war demonstrations. Recently we organized a demo against a local right-wing leader who prides himself on his homophobia and misogyny. We also helped put together a few shows, including an ARA benefit show and two anti-curfew shows. In addition, we try to work with other progressive groups in our area, write letters to the editor, phone zap local right-wing talk shows, and generally spread the word.

We'd like to have better lines of communication with other groups in our area, and want to travel a lot more in support of newer Southern ARA chapters. We'd like to do some outreach work in our local schools, and we'd like to continue identifying and confronting local bigots.

ARA Louisville
P.O. Box 4964
Louisville, KY 40204
(502) 569-1780 louara@hotmail.com
http://members.tripod.com/~louara/

ARA Minneapolis

is a direct action anti-racist group. We believe that people actively engaging in struggle against oppression is what brings about radical social change. We're not going to wait around for the government to do it for us because they benefit from racism and all other forms of oppression.

We have three main areas of work:

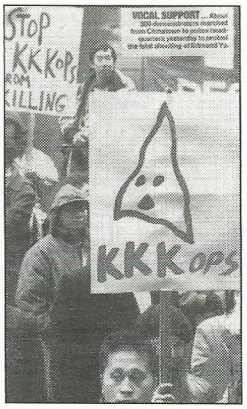
1) We organize against racist groups like Nazi skinheads and the Klan. We organize to shut down Nazi shows/events and "out" them in the neighbourhoods they live in. We participate in anti-Klan work by counter-protesting at their rallies.

2) We organize against the racism of governmnent institutions like the police. We have started up a COP-WATCH, a street program to challenge and confront the police on their behavior.

3) We organize against the Christian Right. We help defend abortion clinics and organize against pro-life churches and fake clinics (clinics run by Christian Right groups for the purpose of confusing and manipulating women into not having an abortion.)

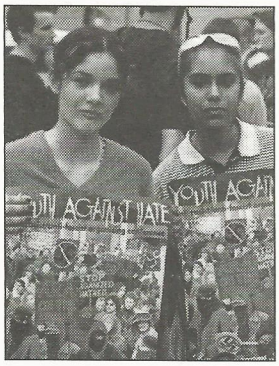
We are interested in helping build a movement that is large enough to successfully take on the organized racist/fascist groups and the racism of the government—the racism that's at the foundation of the development of this country.

ARA Minneapolis
P.O. Box 80239
Minneapolis, MN 55408
(612) 649-4586 arampls@hotmail.com



ANTI-RACIST

MULTI-RACIAL



Western USA

Los Angeles Anti Racist Action/ Acciòn Anti-Racista

began in 1994 with the Anarchist Collective which ran the (De)Center Infoshop in Highland Park. In 1994 and 1995 we participated in a series of marches and street demonstrations against the anti-immigrant initiative "Proposition 187" including a march of over 200,000 people from East Los Angeles to Downtown Los Angeles. We sponsored the Ricardo Flores Magon Film and Lecture Series which included "The Fire this Time" about how repression of the Civil Rights Movement and African American Community Organizing led to the creation of the Crips and Bloods and the 1992 Civil Unrest in Los Angeles, a movie about the Philadelphia attack on the MOVE community and a presentation by War Resister's League.

We have marched against police racism and abuse, and educate young people about dealing with the police when they are targeted as "gang suspects" simply because of the way they dress and the fact that they are Latino, Asian or African American.

We have demonstrated against the Sierra Club's proposal to adopt a policy opposing immigration, claiming it was bad for the environment.

Local military recruiters target Latino and African American communities for recruiting so we help to educate people on how to find a non-military job, and have demonstrated against military racism at the annual Armed Forced Day military parade in Torrance, CA.

Much of what is going on has not been in the form of dramatic protests, but in the form of monkey-wrenching and covert harassment targeted against racist skinhead gangs in areas like the Antelope Valley and Orange County. We also have picketed Vinyl Solutions Records over the sale of Nazi records and organized a boycott of the El Rey Theater because Boyd Rice of the American Front was schedule to appear there. On August 28, 1998, we travelled to Las Vegas to protest the execution-style murder of two Anti-Racist activists by Nazi skinheads.

Most of the participation in ARA/AAR-Los Angeles has been from local Anarchists and Anarchist collectives. Because Southern California is so big, it is necessary for us to use a decentralized approach to organizing. We maintain an ongoing education program which includes organizing against institutional racism which we believe plays a key role in legitimizing racism in the minds of some people.

ARA Los Angeles
P.O. Box 712191
Los Angeles, CA 90071

First wave ARA — West Coast USA

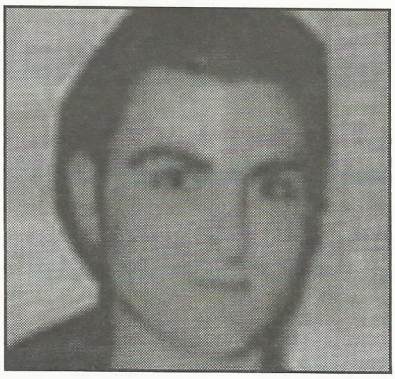
The Anti-Racist Action network has western and west coast roots that go back to the first wave of ARA's in the late 80's. People Against Racist Terror, a southern California affiliate of ARA, started up in 1987, in response to the development of a bonehead presence in Hollywood, the San Fernando Valley and Long Beach club and music scenes. PART began putting out a xerox 'zine version of Turning the Tide as the L.A. anti-racist newsletter, and networking with the Syndicate in Minneapolis, Front Range ARA in Colorado, San Diego ARA, Portland ARA, and and BARA in San Francisco/Oakland, as well as a number of SHARP groupings in southern California and elsewhere.

The first continental ARA gathering was held in Portland in 1991, sponsored by the local ARA, with support from Portland SHARP and the early Coalition for Human Dignity, when the CHD was more grass-roots and street oriented and facing heavy attack from an intense bonehead scene. This (inter)national ARA gathering drew attendees from Canada and the midwest as well as up and down the west coast. It was timed to coincide with the trial of Tom and John Metzger for civil liability in the death of Mulugetaw Seraw, killed by Metzger followers from the East Side White Pride boneheads. There was a similar killing in Reno, Nevada, in the same period, and fairly intense conflict between Nevada boneheads and ARA and SHARP in Las Vegas.

Most of these first wave groups had dissolved by '90 or '91. PART continued to work with non-ARA anti-racist groups in southern California, including the LA Student Coalition (Against Apartheid), high school kids who carried out a series of sit-ins at the South African consulate in Beverly Hills, and the Orange County Peace Punx.

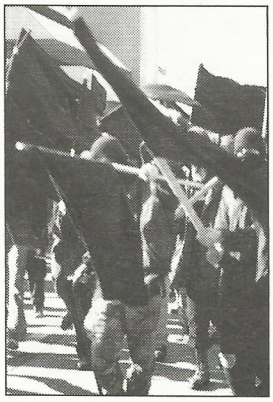
More recently, ARA has picked up again on the west coast, with a third wave chapter in San Diego, an on-going South Bay ARA, and a strong group in the "Inland Empire," (Riverside/San Bernardino). We have had several network events, including a southern California regional ARA gathering last January that drew over 100 folks from around the region and restarted San Diego and jump-started Riverside.

For the future, we want to have more on-going contact in the huge southern California region to keep relatively isolated anti-racists connected and sustain each other in our work.



WE REMEMBER
LIN "SPIT" NEWBORN
and DAN SHERSTY
anti-racist skinheads
murdered by nazis
on July 4, 1998
in the desert
outside Las Vegas.

NEVER AGAIN



CLASS-CONSCIOUS

People Against Racist Terror (PART)

is a southern California affiliate of the ARA Network. We have been involved in grass-roots anti-racist and anti-colonial action, education, research and organizing for almost a dozen years.

PART puts out *Turning the Tide: Journal of Anti-Racist Activism, Research and Education* which is distributed on a quarterly basis nationally and locally. We hold a monthly forum at a Luna Sol Cafe in Los Angeles, and have been involved in seasonal solidarity festivals, Rock Against Racism concerts, political prisoner/POW support campaigns, clinic defense, demonstrations against bone-heads, police brutality, anti-immigrant hysteria and war.

We work in the Crack the CIA Coalition, have close relations with the Malcolm X Grassroots Movement and the Movimiento de Liberacion Nacional Mexicano. We do work around Native American and Hawaiian Sovereignty and Puerto Rican Independence. We oppose anti-gay bigotry, anti-Asian violence, and anti-Semitism; we support Palestinian liberation, environmental justice, prisoners rights, and an end to all exploitation and oppression.

We believe the struggle against white supremacy, male supremacy and colonialism are central to achieving a just society. We think it is vital to break an identification with and as oppressors; and that the class struggle, anti-racist struggle and anti-authoritarian struggle go on within individuals as well as between groups.

People Against Racist Terror
POB 1055
Culver City CA 90232
310-288-5003
part2001@usa.net

San Diego ARA

was started around the summer of '97 to confront the growing hate in Southern California. Evident in all the new Neo-Nazi groups, and brutality of the police force.

San Diego has been involved with the October 22 Day Against Police Brutality; a protest against Alan Bersin (Former Border CZAR) for his militarizing of the border policies; the Hands Across Borders protest; and protests against Nike child labor, neo liberalism, NAFTA, GATT, MAI. Currently ARA San Diego plans to join ARA L.A. and ARA South Bay to Hand Bill the Armed Forces Day Parade in L.A. We had one Benefit concert and are planning another one to make money to start a Copwatch program.

ARA San Diego has no direct focus. We're against all oppression and coercion, as stated by the four principles.

Many ARA San Diego people are Vegans and feel strongly about specism (Welfare of all animals). As a whole though we feel that the Network is great!

ARA San Diego
539 Telegraph CNYN RD # 721
Chula Vista CA 91910

Canadian Prairies

ARA Winnipeg

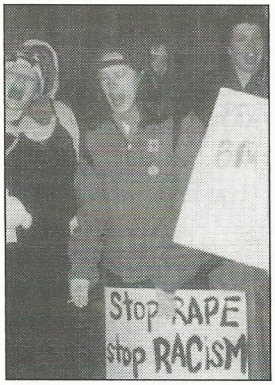
Since ARA Winnipeg started in June 1997, we have dealt with one of the biggest murder trials involving Nazi skinheads. Gordon Kuhtey was murdered back in 1990 and 4 boneheads were arrested and put on trial beginning May 1997. ARA held rallies in remembrance of the victim as well as monitored the trial. Unfortunately the charges were stayed.

We have held 3 successful Rock against Racism concerts, including one attended by over 800 people. On March 21, we held a rally for the International Day for the Elimination of Racism. About 60 people attended. We have done postering campaigns just saying End Racism to get our name out and to show the racists in the city the anti racist scene is still going strong.

We have a web page as well as an ARA hotline and an extensive archive with pictures and blurbs on each Racist around Canada.

We are currently working on a zine and monthly newsletter, as well as forming a research committee to do some surveillance on any nazis around the city.

Winnipeg ARA
Box 31023
208-393 Portage Ave
Winnipeg, MB R3M 3k9
(204) 989-3930



ANTI-SEXIST

Calgary ARA

was formed in February, 1997. After initial efforts to build public support for the group were successful, ARA Calgary's real work began.

We held a postering campaign in the summer of '97. The posters featured a picture of a local bonehead who had just been released from prison for assault and declared our city a Nazi-free zone with a picture of a Nazi parade being disrupted by a purse-wielding anti-racist. Our posters, as well as business cards and handbills, made people aware of our new phone line.

The phone line was also a success. As soon as the posters started going up we received more and more calls. In addition to numerous citizens voicing their support we received threats from local racists, many whom we easily identified. Listening to these idiots try and fake bad German accents was a riot! The line provided lots of information and entertainment for us.

The phone line was in part funded by our Rock Against Racism benefit concert headlined by the Planet Smashers from Montreal PQ. We greatly appreciated their support as all the bands graciously consented to play free of charge. Propagandhi (Winnipeg), The Mighty Mighty Bosstones (Boston) and Chumbawamba (from the UK) have all expressed adamant support for ARA. Having tables at their recent shows has boosted the amount of public support we have received overwhelmingly.

In the future we have plans for another phone line, more postering, public education campaigns, and causing more problems for local racists.

ARA Calgary
POB 23147, Connaught Post Office
Calgary, Alberta T2S 3B1
ara_alberta@hotmail.com
http://www.geocities.com/CapitolHill/Senate/6545/

ARA Lethbridge (AB)

From the depths of a fascist right wing conservative hell hole come the most hardcore social activists and socialist thinkers of our time... we are ARA Lethbridge. Since our beginnings in March 1998, we have hosted rallies and rock against racism shows, we have gotten into the schools to teach classes and most of all we have made our presence known.

On March 21st, only weeks after our formation, in conjunction with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination we co-hosted an Anti-Racism/Multi-Cultural Awareness Rally. A rally which attracted over 1000 people and presented them with speakers and cultural performances, a rally which made its way into the hearts of those who attended or performed, a rally shown worthy of becoming an annual event. That night we hosted a Rock Against Racism show, which attracted and educated over 250 teenagers, topping attendance for any Lethbridge show in a long time.

We have taught classes to over 300 students, educating them about the Racist-Right, Anti-Racism, ARA, and Mumia-Abu Jamal. ARA Lethbridge believes it is time to tap the Fascist Flow, and we are ON THE PROWL.

Ontario & Quebec

ARA Kingston

formed in the Fall of 1997, after Heritage Front propaganda appeared on Queen's University campus and around town. Our first action was to press Money Mart to close the local Heritage Front postal box. To achieve this objective we solicited the support of campus and community groups. In response to our concerns Money Mart immediately closed the postal box.

To counter the Heritage Front propaganda we mobilized local youths and distributed posters and stickers. Our own activites have been varied, ranging from study groups to movie nights to shows. We have also supported anti-racist initiatives in other cities. On February 28th, we sent a contigent to support ARA/AAR Montreal in their efforts to shutdown a nazi show. Our membership is very diverse with a wide range in age and ethnic background. Given the relatively short time that we have been around we have been very successful in getting people involved and establishing our presence in the area.

ARA Kingston
P.O. Box # 461
Kingston, ON K7L 4W5
arakingston@hotmail.com

Kitchener-Waterloo ARA

In 1993, Kitchener nazis openly distributed hate literature, recruited for the Heritage Front and provided funding to bring British holocaust revisionist David Irving to Canada to spread their message of hate. A local Jewish activist had her house burnt twice after publicly showing opposition to the nazis, and a Jewish shopkeeper was assaulted and received racist death threats in his downtown store. Well, the revisionist got deported for propagating hate, local activists shut down the recruiting centre, and a local bonehead spent some time in jail for assaulting the shopkeeper. No one was charged in the arson.

K-W ARA formed in January 1997 and includes activists from 1993 and victims of bonehead attacks. We have focused on information gathering and spreading anti-racist messages. We regularly table at political events, schools, punk, ska, hard-core and hip-hop shows, do a web site, produce a zine "The Ruckus" and do postering and stickering. We've done several public speaking engagements and have started public movie nights. We confront the boneheads on the street and in schools, though many move in and out of jail on various drug and assault charges. Our solidarity work includes working with street youth and the Native people of Stoney Point. K-W ARA is committed to fighting fascists and right-wing extremists wherever they go.

Kitchener - Waterloo ARA
PO Box 40006
75 King Street
Waterloo, ON N2J 4V1

Action Anti-Raciste Montréal

fut crée au printemps de 1997. Notre première action a été d'afficher "notre ville est interdite aux racistes" dans le quartier d'un dépanneur appartenant des immigrants qui fut vandalisé quelques jours auparavant par des racistes. Nous avons aussi affiché dans les quartiers habités par des boneheads connu(e)s. Le 28 février 1998 nous avons empêché un concert "white power" d'avoir lieu où les groupes: Excessive Force, Carwreck, Blue Eyed Devils, et Aggravated Assault devaient jouer. Il est important pour nous de produire et traduire de la documentation en français étant donné notre situation géographique et de travailler avec d'autre villes à travers de la province.

Action Anti-Raciste Montréal
#8-414 Mont Royal est.
Montréal, PQ H2J 1W1
(514) 851-1880
aramontreal@hotmail.com
http://welcome.to/aramontreal.com

ARA NiagARA

formed in November 1995, as an independent grassroots youth organization composed mainly of punks, skinheads, and other subcultures. Focusing on the local youth scene, education is our main strategy.

ARA NiagARA's activities have included concerts, campaigns against hate-rock, information tables, particpation in demonstrations and workshops, an internet page, working with other groups, and a 'zine/newsletter called *True Colours*.

Although St. Catharines was an important stop in the route of slaves escaping the United States, the Niagara Region has not been immune to racism and bigotry. In the past few years there have been gaybashings, racially-motivated assaults, arsons and vandalism, neo-Nazi organizing, and the selling of racist music, clothing and magazines. The Heritage Front was fairly successful in the area for awhile, operating a phone hotline and recruiting young boneheads. Today HF Niagara is practically nowhere to be seen and most of its young members have quit. That doesn't mean the fascist threat is gone though; neo-Nazi youths still frequent local hang-outs and occasionally cause trouble.

ARA Niagara
12-111 Fourth Ave., Box 103
Ridley Square
St. Catharines, ON L2S 3P5

ARA North York (Ontario)

formed in the fall of 1997. We are still in the formation stage where we have yet to get official status at the University or a separate address/e-mail address. We are comprised mainly of York University students.

The members of ARA North York are involved in a large series of movements. We have held an Anti-Racist heavy metal concert and hope to have further heavy metal or punk concerts. Some of us are doing research on Fascist history and modern culture. Most of the members are involved in the student rights movement.

We would like to become more formalized and increase the amount of work ARA chapters are doing within the Queer communities and the Jewish communities.

ARA Pickering

started at the end of 1995 at a time when neo-nazi boneheads were growing. With the help of Toronto ARA we set up our first Rock Against Racism show in October 1995. Soon after we held our second Rock Against Racism show which drew over 300 local kids and a few unwanted boneheads. The anti-fascist resistance took a while to create but we didn't back down.

On the Prowl: Beating back the fash in Ontario

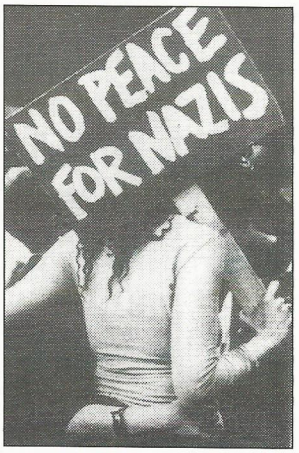
The story of ARA in Ontario & Quebec is the story of young anti-racists organizing to stop the most successful fascist organization in Canadian history, the Toronto-based Heritage Front.

Formed in 1989, by 1992 the Front could attract up to 250 people to its rallies and events. Faced with increasing bonehead violence and racist provocation, youth formed ARA-Toronto to expose, oppose and confront the Front whenever they tried to organize in public.

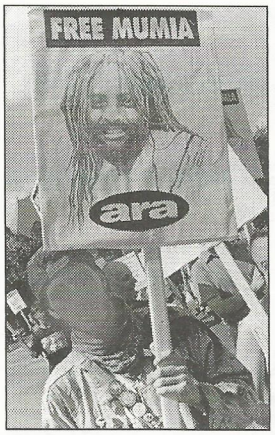
The Front's efforts to expand in 1993 brought determined resistance. Ottawa ARA was formed, with strong participation from SHARP (SkinHeads Against Racial Prejudice). The May 1993 founding concert for the Front's Ottawa chapter brought over 1000 anti-racists out in protest, but the night ended in the worst violence of this period when Front members took control of the street that night and marched up to Parliament Hill, beating vulnerable people in their path.

Meanwhile, the Front was also recruiting through a store-front in Kitchener-Waterloo, sparking regular pickets and demonstrations which eventually closed the store. Some of the youth involved formed the K-W Anti-Racist Group, which dissolved but its spirit lives on in ARA K-W today.

The Heritage Front has been in decline since 1994, but anti-racists in our area resolved to keep the faith and expand our presence to discourage the fascists from organizing publicly again. Chapters formed in the Durham region east of Toronto, St. Catharines, Sarnia, Peterborough, and Kingston... the list is stilll growing! One of our main targets has been the white power music industry. ARA activists have organized boycotts of stores and disrupted nazi concerts in the Niagara region, Buffalo, Detroit, Montreal and Toronto.



QUEER-POSITIVE



FREEDOM-LOVING!

The wheels started turning and the fascists got the shitty end of the stick. The boneheads were confronted everywhere they surfaced by mass groups of anti-fascist youth. Although this got our T-shirts, buttons and every other form of ARA insignia banned from the schools we remained militant and got the job done.

We also produced a pamphlet on the history of real Skinheads and how to tell the difference between real Skins and the pathetic boneheads.

Today, thanks to militant anti-fascists in Pickering the boneheads have disappeared. We are currently working on exposing and confronting a new christian right wing organisation, the Family Action Council. ARA Pickering will remain a militant, anti-kkkop, anti-fascist youth group who confronts organised hatred on all levels for many years to come.

ARA Pickering
P.O. Box 66022
Town Centre Postal Outlet 1355 Kingston Road
Pickering, ON L1V 6P7
arapickering@hotmail.com
http://www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/Stonewall/3728/

ARA Sarnia

started up in about October 1996 when some local boneheads started organizing and causing trouble at local high schools. For a long time now we've been trying to clear our name after some cops started having meetings at churches with parents and concerned citizens about us. There and in the newspaper they referred to us as a violence-prone bunch of left wing kids trying to start trouble.

Since ARA has been known here all the boneheads either moved away or are in jail. Thanx to ARA our city is nazi free.

ARA Sarnia
POB 22009
Twin Lake Postal Outlet
Sarnia Ontario N7S 6J4

ARA Toronto

formed in September 1992. Our basis of unity is: we will expose, oppose and confront organized racism and the far-right agenda through education, mass action, and support of broader anti-racist struggles.

Through militant protests, boycotts of nazi-run stores, and youth-oriented community education, we helped shut down the Heritage Front in Toronto by the fall of 1994.

We continue to build an anti-fascist presence among young people, especially through Rock Against Racism concerts. We think that politics without some good times leads nowhere! Since our controversial "Youth Against Hate" conference in 1996, we have also put a lot of energy into working with anti-fascists to form new groups in other cities and towns near us. We continue to experiment with new tactics for confronting local fascists like Ernst Zundel, world-infamous Holocaust denier and nazi propagandist.

We actively support community campaigns against police brutality and in solidarity with First Nations/indigenous struggles. We have good relations with a number of community organizations, including the Black Action Defense Committee and the Ontario Coaltion Against Poverty.

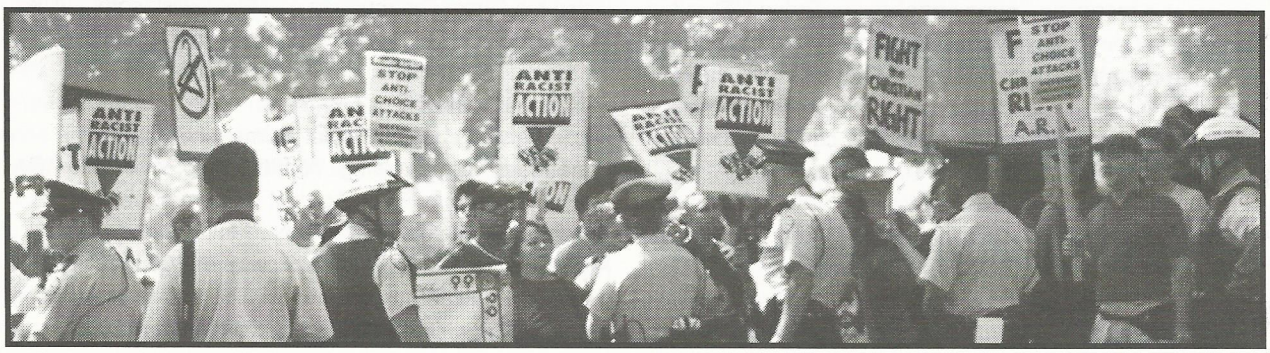
We educate ourselves about connections between fascist movements and the Christian Right, the fringe right, and movements to deny First Nations rights and sovereignty. We share our research through pamphlets, a regular newsletter *On the Prowl*, our web-site, and a biweekly anti-fascist news show "Radio Antifa" on community radio CKLN 88.1 FM.

ARA Toronto
P.O. Box 291, Station B
Toronto, ON CANADA M5T 2T2
(416) 631-8835
ara@web.net http://www.web.net/~ara

Youth Against Hate

is a collective based out of Oakville, Ontario, which focuses on combatting racism, sexism and homophobia in all its forms. We formed in August 1997 as a reaction to the growing amount of racist skinheads in our area. We wanted to do something about the hate and prejudice we saw in our Oakville, Mississauga, Burlington area, and felt a collective would be a good start. We protest at rallies and demonstrations, we network and support other groups and collectives, we put on benefit shows for various organizations, we write articles and pamphlets, produce and gather up literature in hopes to open the eyes of our community. We speak at engagements where we address these issues. We are organizing the Rally for Equality in summer 1999. To distribute our newsletter/pamphlets, contact us!

Youth Against Hate
1011 Upper Middle Road East, #1314
Oakville, ON L6H 5Z9
yah@knowhow.com http://www.knowhow.com/yah



Eastern USA

Boston ARA

was formed early in 1997 as a direct response to an incident at a music event. It was a slow start for our chapter, but with the help of a few dedicated individuals, ARA Boston quickly became a visible force in the music community. Our focus soon spread to educating the community. We have given presentations at schools and community groups to inform them that ARA is here for them as a resource.

ARA Boston works as a hub of information for other New England chapters. We work closely with ARA Burlington as well as other less formal organizations of people. We have organized hardcore and mixed bill shows to benefit our chapter and get information out. We also have donated time and money to organizations such as Street Work Project, the Boston Food Bank and the Nicodemus Newborn trust fund. The ARA Boston chapter has also organized a "wear black" demonstration for the National Day of Action Against Police Brutality (October 22nd).

We continue to gather information in order to publish a yearly newsletter in conjunction with ARA Burlington. This information will also be published and updated on our upcoming website. Every day our chapter is growing and we are building a visible face in our community.

ARA Boston
Astor Station, PO Box 230564
Boston, MA 02123-0564
araboston@hotmail.com

Dutchess County ARA

formed in the spring of 1998. Our focus of work is to educate the younger kids of the area so that they don't turn out to be racist. And if they already are, then to tell them that they shouldn't be and they are not wanted and people won't stand for it anymore. So far we have just been trying to get the word out. We have had a couple tables at shows with a donation jar, fliers and stuff like that. We also are in the process of making logos for shirts, that we feel represents all aspects of the ARA, not just the traditional anti-Nazi signs that are so often used.

ARA Dutchess County
POB 334
Trivoli NY 12583

ARA Bel Air

The Bel Air chapter of ARA started in early 1997 with one local guy deciding that he was tired of hearing about the klan so much in the (local) news. With the help of the Social Resistance Collective, we have expanded our realm of influence outside of Bel Air to join forces with East Side Baltimore ARA as well as helping smaller chapters start throughout the nation with the birth of ARA Online.

ARA Online is a daily newsletter sent out to anyone who subscribes (send mail to **araonline@icaer.org**, subject: SUBSCRIBE to join) that focuses on spreading information quickly and efficiently throughout the nation to ARA members.

We hope to establish a yearly FREE music festival in Baltimore to benefit ARA, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, Anarchist Black Cross, Copwatch, and any groups who wish to voice an opinion. With the help of Perturbed/ First Born Records (a local record company) we hope to make this a success.

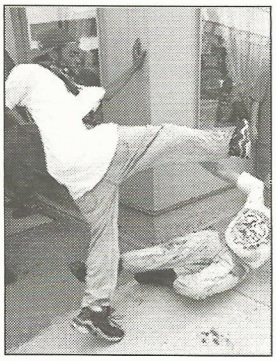
ARA Bel Air
POB 1364
Bel Air MD 21014-7364

Hampton Roads (VA) ARA

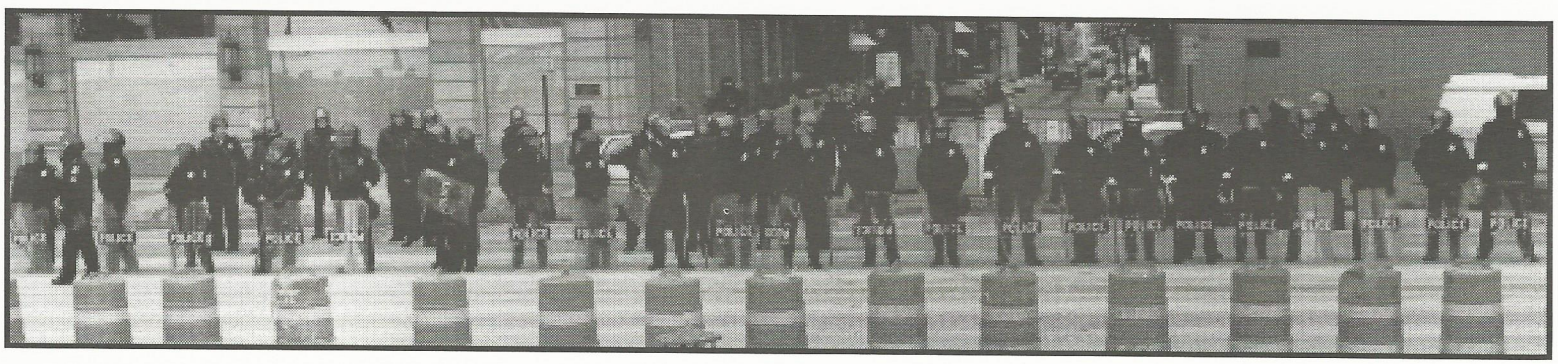
formed in the summer of 1997. We find ourselves not having to fight boneheads head on, but fighting a silent racism. What we have done is try to get into the community, to talk and educate other people and stop the spread of ignorance. We had a successful benefit show, had video showings about Leonard Peltier and Mumia Abu-Jamal, tabled local shows, and volunteer for a local Sexual Assault Hotline. We have also built strong ties with other organizations in the community to help each other out and for more ideas on how to do things.

We are now working on a Police Brutality March for October 22 and to work more with the gay community and organize a rally against Pat Robertson, since he lives right here. We are also working in solidarity with Glouster ARA and Richmond (VA) ARA to get established and help out with literature and ideas. We have helped table shows for Glouster and there seems to be a lot of interest in that area since it is rural and people fly confederate flags freely and talk openly about their racism. We hope that Glouster and Richmond (VA) ARA are big enough next year to write their own thang!

Hampton Roads ARA
784 Timberlake Shopping Center #691
Virginia Beach, VA 23462



DIRECT ACTION



To get in touch with ARA near you, or to start a new group, contact us!

The most up-to-date list of current chapters is on the Network web-site at: http://www.aranet.org/

in the USA

Columbus Anti-Racist Action
PO Box 82097 • Columbus, Ohio • 43202
(614) 424-9074
ara@coil.com
http://www.coil.com/~ara

in Canada

Toronto Anti-Racist Action
PO Box 291 • Station B
Toronto, Ontario • M5T 2T2
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ara@web.net
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